Appln. of MOURA et al. Div. of 08/426,920

Page 31, line 16, after "credit indication" insert - code D indicating a dedicated channel at frequency F--.

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please add the following new claims 26-28:

--26. A network communication system comprising: an upstream channel;

a plurality of remote link adapters, said plurality of remote link adapters sharing said upstream channel; and

a server, wherein a remote link adapter transmits a credit signal to said server upon sending a data packet, said credit signal corresponding to a volume of data said remote link adapter is authorized to send, said server updates said credit signal so that said updated credit signal corresponds to said volume of data less said data sent and said server then returns said updated credit signal to said remote link adapter.

- 27. A system as in claim 26, wherein said remote link adapter is transitioned into a non-responsive state if said server does not receive said credit signal.
  - 28. A network communication system comprising: an upstream channel,

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